

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 HA-05 ACDA-12 CIAE-00

DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /090 W

-----056306 141805Z /46

O 141505Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2483

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASHA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 1812

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

BRUSSELS FOR USDEL TO ZAIRE MEETING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, PINS, MOPS, BC

SUBJECT: BRIEFING GOB OFFICIALS ON ZAIRE

REF: (A) STATE 148408, (B) GABORONE 1702

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON EXTAFF DEPUTY SECRETARY MOGAMI JUNE 14 TO DISCUSS U.S. VIEWS AND APPROACHES TO PROBLEMS OF ZAIRE AND DELIVER TALKING POINTS PROVIDED REF A. MOGAMI EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR UPDATE OF USG VIEWS, PARTICULARLY ASSURANCES THAT, CONTRARY TO GOB'S UNDERSTANDING PRIOR TO DEMARCHE, USG DOES NOT SUPPORT ORGANIZATION OF PAN-AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE. HE REITERATED HIS CONCERN (REF B) THAT PAN-CONFIDENTIAL

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AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE COULD WELL DIVIDE AFRICA INTO ANTAGONISTIC ARMED CAMPS AND LEAVE WEST OPEN TO LEGITIMATE CHARGES OF "NEOCHOLONIALISM".

2. IN MOGAMI'S "PERSONAL VIEW", PROBLEMS BETWEEN ANGOLA AND ZAIRE WILL BE PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE BECAUSE OF ANTAGONISM AND SUSPICIONS DATING FROM ZAIRIAN

SUPPORT OF FNLA IN ANGOLA CIVIL WAR. ACCORDING TO MOGAMI, BOTH MOBUTU AND NETO CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THE OTHER IS TRYING TO TOPPLE THEM FROM POWER. DESPITE BLEAK PROSPECTS FOR AFRICA MEDIATION BETWEEN ZAIRE AND ANGOLA, MOGAMI SPECULATED THAT OAU SUMMIT AT KHARTOUM MAY WELL DECIDE THAT ANOTHER EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE. MOGAMI TOLD US THAT PROBLEMS OF ZAIRE AND WESTERN RESPONSE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED WITHIN GOB BUT THAT PRESS OF OTHER BUSINESS, PARTICULARLY RECENTLY CONCLUDED FRONTLINE SUMMIT AT WHICH ZAIRE WAS NOT DISCUSSED, HAS DELAYED FORMULATION OF OFFICIAL GOB POSITION.

3. COMMENT: BOTSWANA WILL CONTINUE TO BE RELUCTANT TO TAKE PUBLIC POSITION ON ZAIRE'S PROBLEMS, ALTHOUGH GOB OFFICIALS PROBABLY PRIVATELY APPROVE OF LIMITED WESTERN RESPONSE TO SHABA II CRISIS. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE BELIEVE IT WAS IMPORTANT TO REASSURE GOB THAT USG DOES NOT SUPPORT PERMANENT PAN-AFRICAN SECURITY FORCE OR OTHER MEASURES WHICH MIGHT BE CONSTRUED AS "NEOCOLONIALISM".
HOOVER

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NNN

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